

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

Claim 1. (currently amended) A thermal transfer recording medium comprising a base sheet, a melting ~~type~~-primer layer disposed on said base sheet, a sublimation transfer portion which is disposed on said base sheet and contains sublimation type ink, and a melting ~~type~~-ink layer disposed on said melting ~~type~~-primer layer, in which

said melting ~~type~~-primer layer and said melting ~~type~~-ink layer constitute a melting ~~type~~-transfer portion,

said melting ~~type~~-transfer portion is transferred to a printing object when heating said melting ~~type~~-transfer portion,

and a printing layer where a residual resin made of said primer layer material is exposed is formed; ~~characterized in that~~

wherein said melting primer layer is comprised of a styrene vinyl acetate copolymer of at least 60wt%; and

wherein when said sublimation transfer portion is heated in the state of being firmly in contact with said printing object, said sublimation ink sublimates and infiltrates into said printing object.

~~the main component of material forming said melting type primer layer is styrene vinyl acetate copolymer.~~

Claim 2. (currently amended) A thermal transfer recording medium according to claim 1, wherein said melting ~~type~~-ink layer is formed of black ink containing carbon black which is a coloring agent.

Claim 3. (canceled)

Claim 4. (currently amended) A thermal transfer recording medium according to claim 1, wherein said styrene vinyl acetate copolymer contained in said melting ~~type~~-primer layer ~~contains~~ is comprised of vinyl acetate of 10mol% or more and 50mol% or less.

Claim 5. (canceled)

Claim 6. (currently amended) A thermal transfer recording medium according to claim 1, wherein polyethylene wax is added to said melting ~~type~~-primer layer.

Claim 7. (Original) A thermal transfer recording medium according to claim 1, further comprising a protective portion disposed on said base sheet, wherein when said protective portion is heated, a surface portion of said protective portion becomes adhesive with respect to said residual resin.

Claim 8. (Original) A thermal transfer recording medium according to claim 7, wherein said protective portion contains one kind of resin selected from a group consisting of acrylic resin, polyester resin, vinyl chloride resin, nitrocellulose resin and urethane resin.

Claim 9. (canceled)